

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:106

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2005

POLICY FOR CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS AND MAINTENANCE OF ARCHIVES MUSEUMS

Hasan Chaudhary Munawwar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy laid down by the Government for conservation of monuments and maintenance of the archives/museums;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the various State Governments for financial assistance for preservation of manuscripts of historical and cultural importance in their States;
- (c) if so, the details of financial assistance provided during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for safety and preservation of manuscripts of historical and cultural importance in the country particularly in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 106 FOR 10.3.2005 REGARDING POLICY FOR CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS AND MAINTENANCE OF ARCHIVES/MUSEUMS

(a) : Conservation of protected monuments is the primary responsibility of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 lays down these responsibilities.

Archival records are collected and conserved by the National Archives of India under the Public Records Act 1993.

In order to protect and conserve manuscripts, a National Mission for Manuscripts was set up in 2003.

The National Museum Institute, New Delhi and the National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC), Lucknow have been set up with a view to imparting training in the area of conservation. Government maintains important museums like National Museum, Indian Museum, Salarjung Museum, Allahabad Museum etc. where antiquities are collected, exhibited and conserved.

Besides, the Ministry of Culture extends financial and technical help to other Museums.

(b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) : The information is given in Annexure.

(d) : The National Archives of India (NAI) extends financial assistance to State Archives and NGOs for improving storage facilities, better records management and computerization.

During the last three years, National Archives of India has released Rs.13,95,000/- to five Non-Government Organisations in Delhi and Rs.18,75,000/- to five Government Organisations and Rs.6,60,000/- to eight Non-Government Organisations in Uttar Pradesh.

The National Mission of Manuscripts has designated 27 Manuscripts Resource Centres and 20 Manuscripts Conservation Centres in the various States. In Uttar Pradesh, three Regional Manuscript Conservation Centres are already in existence. The Manuscripts Conservation Centre in Delhi region has been conducting conservation and preservation work of both types, curative and preventive.